



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 09 2017

OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Carper:

Thank you for the letter of March 31, 2017, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding chlorpyrifos.

As you may know, the previous administration prioritized the registration review of the organophosphates (OPs), starting with the question of their neurodevelopmental toxicity. This issue is at the cutting edge of science, involving significant uncertainties. On three separate occasions, the EPA sought advice from the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) on how to evaluate epidemiologic data that explore the possible connection between *in utero* and early childhood exposure to chlorpyrifos and adverse neurodevelopmental effects. The SAP's reports have rendered numerous recommendations for additional study and sometimes conflicting advice for how the EPA should consider the epidemiology data in conducting the EPA's registration review human health risk assessment for chlorpyrifos. What is clear from the panel reports, is that the science on possible neurodevelopmental effects is far from resolved and would benefit from additional evaluation. All registered pesticides must be evaluated, by EPA, through the Congressionally mandated registration review process. The EPA is committed to resolving these questions through that process.

Currently, chlorpyrifos remains registered as the registration review continues. Congress has provided that the EPA must complete registration review by October 1, 2022.

Documents responsive to your request are available at www.regulations.gov:

- Registration Review Docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0850;
- Tolerance Rulemaking Docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0653; and
- Petition Docket EPA-HQ-OPP-2007-1005.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Sven-Erik Kaiser in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at kaiser.sven-erik@epa.gov or (202) 566-2753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wendy Cleland-Hamnett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wendy" being more legible than the last name.

Wendy Cleland-Hamnett
Acting Assistant Administrator